Ragging in educational institutions

†486. DR. CHHATTRAPAL SINGH LODHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of ragging being practiced in the educational institutions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last five years, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the action Government propose to prevent ragging in the educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The Government has taken serious note of the problem of ragging in Universities/Colleges and a strict watch is being maintained by the universities and colleges on any untoward developments. No centralized data is being maintained in regard to cases of ragging.

In order to explore the measures for curbing of ragging in Universities and Colleges, the UGC has constituted an expert committee in September, 1999. The report of the expert committee was circulated to all universities for necessary action. The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Petition No. 656 of 1998 on curbing the menace of ragging in the educational institutions have also been circulated to all the State/ UT Governments/universities for strict compliance. The Commission has also invited the attention of the universities to the report of the committee constituted by the I.IT., Delhi on measures to curb ragging. AICTE has also issued instructions to all the State Secretaries (Technical Education) and Vice-Chancellors of Technical Universities for taking necessary steps to prevent ragging in the Institutes.

Upgradation of engineering institutions

487. SHRI C. PERUMAL; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had set up a three members technical committee to do a reality check on the short listed engineering institutions for upgradation to the status of Indian Institute of Technology;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.